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Governor O'Malley Issues Statement on the Effort to Repeal the Fairness for All Marylanders Act

June 1st, 2014

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor O'Malley issued the following statement upon learning that an effort to repeal the Fairness For All Marylanders Act failed to gain the signatures needed to petition the issue to referendum in the 2014 elections in November:

"We are One Maryland — united in a belief in the dignity of every individual. We passed marriage equality and successfully defended it at the ballot box, we passed the DREAM Act to expand opportunity to all of our neighbors, and we extended protections for gender identity. Marylanders stand on the side of fairness and progress, and we will keep moving forward together."



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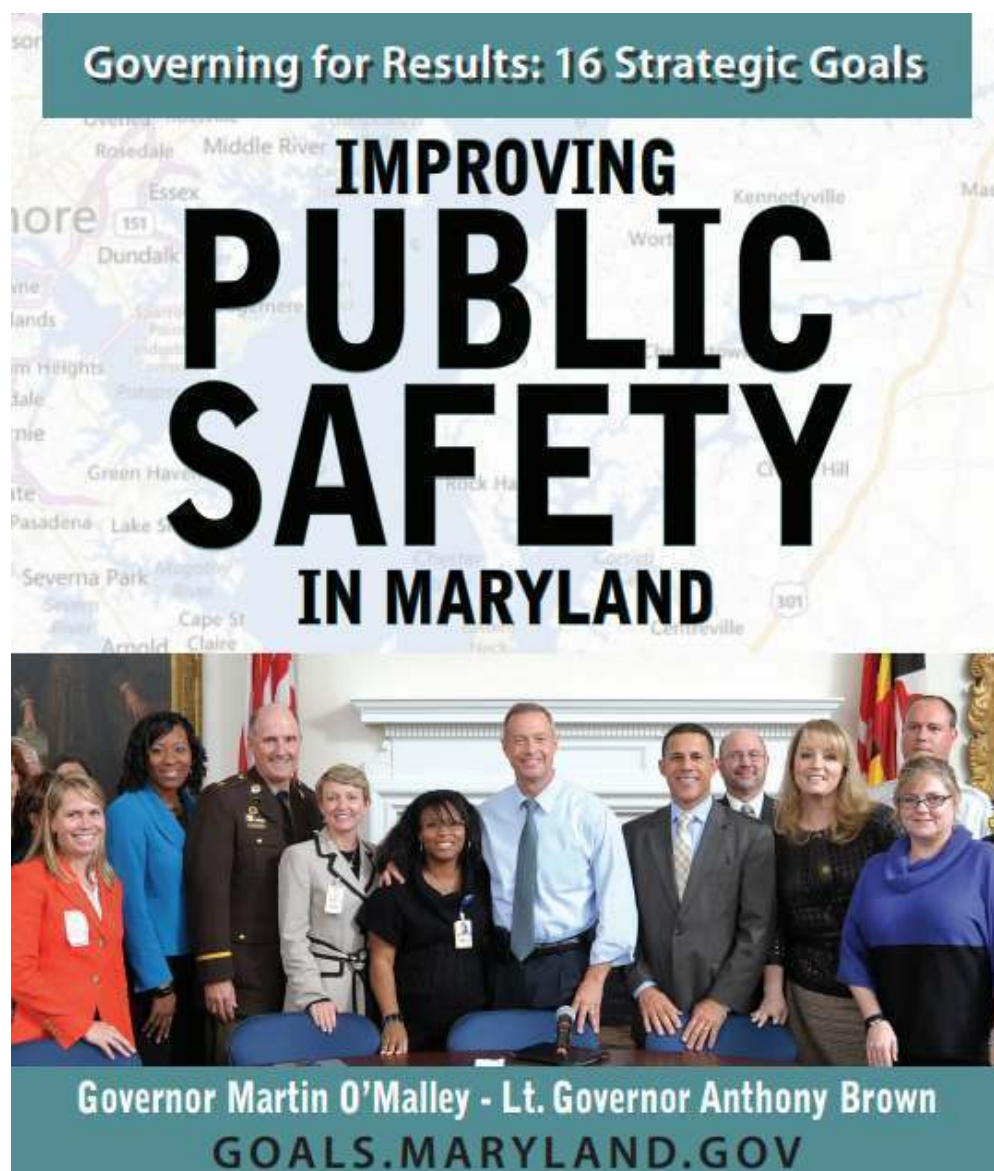
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Governor O'Malley Kicks off Series of Events Focused on 'Governing For Results'

June 1st, 2014



ANNAPOLIS, MD – Tomorrow, Governor O'Malley will kick off a series of events

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called "Governing For Results" to promote the O'Malley-Brown Administration's [16 strategic goals](#) to move Maryland forward.

Tomorrow's event will focus on the Administration's goal to [reduce violent crime in Maryland by 20 percent by the end of 2018](#). The Governor will be joined by County Executive Rushern Baker; Col. Marcus Brown of the Maryland State Police; Prince George's County State's Attorney Angela Alsobrooks; and other community partners and law enforcement officials.

"Working with the brave men and women of law enforcement, we've driven violent crime down to thirty year lows," **Governor O'Malley** said. "We are going to continue doing everything we can — together with federal, state, and local law enforcement partners — to keep our neighborhoods and families safe."

Among the things the Administration has done to drive down violent crime is enact the [Firearm Safety Act](#), a comprehensive plan of commonsense reforms that includes (1) gun safety; (2) mental health safeguards and services; and (3) school safety measures. One of the key components of that law is a fingerprint license requirement to combat straw purchasers.

The Administration also released a document detailing efforts related to the three public safety goals overall: [Governing for Results: Improving Public Safety](#).

"As public officials, our most important responsibility is ensuring the safety of our residents" said **Lt. Governor Brown**. "Working together with law enforcement and our local partners, we've made great progress. Together, we will continue making Maryland a better, safer place to live, work, and raise a family."

Guided by the principle that the things that get measured are the things that get done, the Administration remains focused on tracking and measuring performance and on meeting these goals so that Maryland keeps moving forward.

'Governing for Results' will be a series of events (not necessarily 16) that will highlight Maryland's progress in the areas of opportunity (jobs and schools), sustainability, public safety, and health. They will take place over the next several months, and will chronicle some of the different strategies the Administration is using to make Maryland a safer, healthier place with more jobs and opportunity for all Marylanders.

Editor's Note: Gov. O'Malley discussed the Administration's 16 strategic goals in this year's [State of the State address](#). The Governor said:

Seven years ago—in response to the desires of our people—we set out to govern in a fundamentally different way.

Setting goals. Measuring performance. Hitting deadlines. Getting Results. Making the work of progress visible for you to see, and for me to see.

Every day, the test of any policy, action, or expenditure, has been whether or not it is actually working—working to produce the intended results.

In the past, our states and indeed our country, have been governed by a top-down approach. Hierarchical and bureaucratic. Shouting orders from somewhere above.

But that's not the world we live in any more.

This generation is not about command and control. This generation seeks good ideas on level ground. Everywhere.

It is fundamentally entrepreneurial, operationally collaborative, it is performance measured, connected, and relentlessly interactive.

It is the new way.

This generation wants its government to be accountable for its action, and accountable for the results we seek.

Today in Maryland, you can go online right now, and see the 16 strategic goals we have set for our State's progress, in the areas of job creation, education, security, sustainability, and health.

On some of these, we've already exceeded our initial goals. On others, we're making progress. And on a few, we still have a longer way to go.

Progress requires accountability.

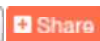
But accountability means putting your commitment out there, for all of us to know and see, and hopefully to help drive.



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Governor O'Malley Issues Statement on President Obama's Proposal to Reduce Carbon Dioxide Pollution

June 2nd, 2014

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor O'Malley today released the following statement in response to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's announcement of a proposed rule to reduce carbon dioxide pollution from existing power plants:

"Climate change is transforming the world in profound ways that continue to evolve. We still have time to become great ancestors, and we have a moral obligation to our children and our grandchildren to act now while we can make a difference."

"I congratulate and thank President Obama for his bold leadership. Today's announcement is the first federal regulatory action to set carbon pollution standards for existing fossil fuel-fired power plants, the largest single source of the nation's greenhouse gas emissions."

"Maryland is among the nation's most vulnerable states to the effects of sea level rise from climate change, and we are taking strong action to reduce carbon pollution. Three of our [16 strategic goals](#) bear on this directly, our goals: [to reduce Maryland's greenhouse gas emissions 25% by 2020](#); [to increase Maryland's in-state renewable generation to 20% by 2022](#); and [to reduce energy consumption in Maryland 15% by 2015](#)."

"Maryland regulates carbon emissions from power plants through the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), a partnership with eight other East Coast states. RGGI is a key component of [Maryland's Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions](#) and we are pleased to see the federal proposal recognize the value of a regional approach."

"We are already witnessing a transformation in the U.S. economy to increased production of lower carbon energy through fuel switching to natural gas and expansion of wind, solar, geothermal, and other renewable non-carbon intensive energy sources. The President's proposal will: (1) help us continue to [expand our use of renewable sources of energy](#) and [reduce harmful air pollution](#) responsible for increased risk of heart and lung disease; (2) give us greater energy security; (3) make important strides in improving public health; and (4) unleash the power of our innovative green economy."

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"We must preserve our planet and grow our economy simultaneously. We cannot become more prosperous without the living systems upon which our prosperity depends."

Click [here](#) for more information on Maryland's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



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Biotech Company Cellphire Tapped for \$1 Million in InvestMaryland Funding

June 10th, 2014

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley and The Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development announced today that Cellphire, a Rockville biotechnology company, has received a \$1 million investment through the State's InvestMaryland program. Cellphire is developing stabilized cellular products, including freeze-dried platelets that can be stored for years, for use in a range of advanced therapeutic and diagnostic applications.

"Supporting entrepreneurs and innovators like those at Cellphire is a central piece of Maryland's broad support of the startups and small businesses that move our Innovation Economy forward and keep our State competitive in the 21st Century," said **Governor O'Malley**. "Maryland is a center of healing and discovery. The technology being developed by Cellphire has the potential to improve care and save lives around the globe."

"The underlying technology that Cellphire has developed promises to provide a quantum leap forward in how cells are handled and used within healthcare today," said **Cellphire CEO Stephen H. Willard**. "Our initial application – platelets – is a perfect example, as untreated platelets last five days outside of a donor's body. With our patented treatment, we are able to freeze dry platelet derived products for storage measured in years, at room temperature. Reconstitution is as simple as adding sterile water. This investment from MVF enables us to begin pursuing other applications in diagnostics, sports medicine, plastic surgery and dentistry."

Administered by the State's Maryland Venture Fund (MVF), InvestMaryland is a public-private partnership of the State and venture capital firms and is one of Governor Martin O'Malley's key economic development initiatives. InvestMaryland raised \$84 million to reinvigorate the State-run MVF and support the growth of young Maryland companies in biotechnology, cybersecurity, e-commerce and other high-growth industries.

Last year, Cellphire received a contract worth up to \$57 million from the Biomedical Advanced Research Defense Authority, a division of U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. The funding will be used to continue development of the company's freeze-dried platelet product, Thrombosomes, and move it closer to winning Food and Drug Administration approval. Founded as a bio-defense company in early

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2006, Cellphire's initial focus was on applications within the global blood supply market. The fragility of the blood supply is a concern for agencies and other groups planning a response to potential pandemics, such as avian influenza or other natural or man-made disasters that could interrupt the supply of platelets needed to treat casualties. Cellphire has since expanded its scope, developing technologies and products with diverse applications across blood transfusion, advanced care of chronic and acute wounds and diagnostic reagents used in clinical and research settings.

Created by Governor O'Malley and passed by the General Assembly in 2011, InvestMaryland is the largest venture capital investment initiative in Maryland's history. In March 2012, the State raised \$84 million for the program through an online auction of tax credits to Maryland insurance companies. Two-thirds of the funding – \$56 million – is being managed by carefully screened private venture firms that will invest the funds and, if successful, return 100% of the principal and 80% of the profits to the State's general fund. The remaining third of the InvestMaryland capital is largely allocated to direct investments by the state-run Maryland Venture Fund.

The Maryland Venture Fund is a regionally recognized leader in seed and early-stage investing and a national model for state-supported investment programs. With nearly two decades of experience and numerous successful investments, MVF invests in highly innovative technology companies across the full range of industry sectors including software, communications, cybersecurity and life sciences companies in the areas of healthcare IT, medical devices and diagnostics.

About DBED:

The Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development stimulates private investment and creates jobs by attracting new businesses, encouraging the expansion and retention of existing companies, and providing workforce training and financial assistance to Maryland companies. The Department promotes the State's many economic advantages and markets local products and services at home and abroad to spur economic development and international investment, trade and tourism. Because they are major economic generators, the Department also supports the Arts, film production, sports and other special events. For more information, visit www.choosemaryland.org.



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Governor Martin O'Malley Hosts Chesapeake Executive Council Meeting

June 16th, 2014

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley, 2014 chair of the Chesapeake Executive Council, today hosted Bay Program partners in Annapolis for the landmark signing of a new Chesapeake Watershed Agreement. **EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy, Delaware Governor Jack Markell, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Corbett, Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe and Washington, D.C. Mayor Vincent Gray** were among the program partners who joined Governor O'Malley in committing to a new set of goals that will advance restoration and protection of the Bay, its tributaries and the lands that surround the Chesapeake Bay. Commission Chair Pennsylvania State Representative Ron Miller, and West Virginia Environmental Protection Director Scott Mandirola also participated in today's meeting.



"Today we celebrate the most inclusive, collaborative, goal-oriented Agreement the Chesapeake Bay Watershed has ever seen," said **Governor Martin O'Malley, Executive Council Chair**. "This Agreement not only addresses our continuing water quality and land use challenges, it also confronts critical emerging issues like environmental literacy, toxic contaminants and climate change. Perhaps most importantly, it builds upon the strength of our diverse citizenry – including our

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youngest stewards – calling to action the nearly 18 million people that call our watershed home.”

The new Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement comprises 10 interrelated goals, which are linked to measurable and time-bound outcomes: clean water, abundant wildlife and a vibrant cultural heritage, where diverse populations of citizens and stakeholders have access to waterways and open space, and are engaged in conservation and stewardship. The Agreement also includes management strategies, which for the first time will describe how and when the jurisdictions intend to achieve these outcomes.

“I am pleased to see that this Agreement aligns closely with strategies developed by federal agencies in response to President Obama’s Executive Order on Bay protection and restoration,” said **EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy, who also chairs the Federal Leadership Committee for the Chesapeake Bay**. “When there is consensus and commitment toward a common goal, our effectiveness is that much stronger. Together, we demonstrate our commitment toward a common goal – a restored, healthy and economically vibrant watershed.”

Developed through an extensive collaborative process over many months, thousands of citizens from across the watershed provided input that directly influenced the Agreement’s content, resulting in the addition of key issues like toxic contaminants and climate change. It also marks the first time that the Bay’s headwater states of New York, West Virginia and Delaware have pledged to work toward restoration goals that reach beyond water quality. The governors of New York and West Virginia are expected to sign the Agreement on behalf of their states.

“This landmark Agreement is forward-looking and results oriented, recognizing that our work must be sustained by and for future generations,” said **Joe Gill, Maryland Department of Natural Resources Secretary and 2014 Chair of the Executive Council Principal Staff Committee**. “The management strategies – to which Maryland is fully committed – will provide for unprecedented levels of transparency, accountability and public engagement.”

“This comprehensive agreement will result in water quality restoration that not only restores the Bay, but also protects our streams, rivers, reservoirs and groundwater that we depend on for water supply and recreation for 17 million people living in the watershed,” said **Maryland Department of the Environment Secretary Robert M. Summers**.

Underscoring these commitments, the Council’s Annual Meeting included briefings from the Bay Program’s Citizen, Scientific and Local Government Advisory Committees along with special presentations by student leaders from across the Watershed. In 2010, Maryland became the first state in the nation to adopt and environmental literacy graduation requirement.

“Knowledge is the foundation for giving students an active role in preserving and protecting the Bay,” said **Devan Ogburn, a rising senior at Leonardtown High School in St. Mary’s County**. “I have seen that students become motivated when they have a meaningful understanding of the issues and what role they play in connection to them.”

This marks Governor O'Malley's third and final term as Chair of the Executive Council; in 2008, Governor O'Malley led the Executive Council to adopt 2-year milestones, bringing an unprecedented level of focus, transparency and accountability to the Bay Program model.

The meeting is the second in a series of 'Governing for Results' events, which promote the [O'Malley-Brown Administration's 16 strategic goals](#) to make Maryland a safer, healthier, more sustainable state. Today's event highlights Maryland's efforts to achieve [its goal](#) of reaching a healthier Chesapeake Bay tipping point by 2025.

Under Governor O'Malley's leadership, Maryland has exceeded its milestone goals for stormwater and septic improvements, and wastewater treatment plant upgrades in each of the past two tracking period, and increased cover crop plantings by 200% since 2006. Advances supporting this work include: development of [BayStat](#), an online tool used by managers and citizens to track and target restoration; creation of the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund , which has directed \$256 million to support local restoration projects that reduce non-point source pollution from entering the Bay; passage of first of its kind no-net loss of forest legislation; adoption of a plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 25% by 2020.

At today's meeting, Governor O'Malley announced new funding including: \$2.6 million in additional funding for Bay-related projects, including \$250,000 in grants to non-profit organizations for infrastructure improvements and community outreach through the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund; \$1.6 million in Watershed Assistance Collaborative funding to help local governments meet their milestones, in partnership with the EPA and the Chesapeake Bay Trust; and more than \$750,000 over the next three years for teacher Professional development to further support our Environmental Literacy commitments.

"Together with the citizens of this great watershed — farmers, students, conservationists, business and community leaders and faith-based organizations — we are taking the steps needed to turn our words to deeds, to convert this new Agreement to an improved Chesapeake Bay," said **Governor O'Malley**. "And I believe we are in the best position yet to move the Chesapeake Bay to a tipping point—the point where the tide of restoration will finally have been turned."

Members of the Chesapeake Executive Council include the governors of Delaware, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia, the mayor of the District of Columbia, the chair of the Chesapeake Bay Commission and the administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on behalf of the federal government. This assembly is responsible for setting the Chesapeake Bay Program's policy agenda.



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Governor O'Malley Announces Temporary "Cooling Off" Period in Hopkins / 1199 SEIU Contract Negotiations

June 26th, 2014

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor O'Malley issued the following statement today:

"Today I urged 1199 SEIU and the Johns Hopkins Hospital management to take a one week cooling off period. 1199 SEIU has agreed not to strike at this time — I appreciate both sides' willingness to continue negotiating in good faith."

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Governor O'Malley Establishes Overdose Prevention Council to Combat Overdoses in Maryland

June 27th, 2014

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley announced the formation of the [Overdose Prevention Council](#) to counter an increase in the number of overdose deaths in an executive order released today. Under Governor O'Malley's leadership, the state has added drug and alcohol overdose deaths to the [Administration's 16 strategic goals](#) and is currently working to [drive down overdose deaths by 20 percent by 2015](#).

"Maryland is more committed than ever to tackling the scourge of substance abuse afflicting so many of our neighbors, friends and family members," said **Governor O'Malley**. "With this Executive Order, I have tasked key State agencies to better coordinate and create strategies to drive down the number of overdoses in the state, provide needed treatment options, and expand our current outreach strategies. By working together to lift our fellow Marylanders out of addiction, we will ensure that we continue to keep our neighborhoods safe, and protect the health of our loved ones."

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To address the epidemic, the Council will advise and assist in establishing a coordinated, statewide effort to reduce the number of fatal and non-fatal overdoses in Maryland. In addition, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) released its [2013 Annual Report: Drug and Alcohol-Related Intoxication Deaths in Maryland](#). The report shows that the number of heroin-related overdose deaths increased by 18 percent in 2013, from 392 in 2012 to 464 in 2013. This increase, coupled with a rise in fentanyl and alcohol-related deaths, contributed to a 7 percent rise in the total number of Maryland fatal overdoses, from 799 in 2012 to 858 in 2013.

In accordance with the Governor's directive, DHMH is launching a [statewide public education campaign](#) to raise awareness about opioid overdoses. The Department is partnering with local health departments to distribute posters, pamphlets, and emergency cards to assist those seeking information on the education and prevention of opioid overdoses. Additionally, DHMH is launching a [Facebook page](#) on substance use disorders as a venue to distribute current information and share stories from residents across the state who are dealing with addiction.

"This campaign is aimed at family, friends, and community members," said **Dr. Joshua Sharfstein**, Secretary, DHMH. "Being able to identify and quickly respond to an overdose by dialing 9-1-1 and administering naloxone, if trained, will save lives. Calling 2-1-1 is also the most effective way to learn more about treatment resources in your community."

The Governor also directed the development of several additional initiatives aimed at curbing the opioid overdose epidemic. These initiatives include:

- Training and equipping first responders, including law enforcement officers, to administer naloxone to individuals who may have experienced a drug overdose. Naloxone is a life-saving medication that can quickly restore the breathing of a person who has overdosed on heroin or prescription opioid pain medication.

- Reviewing the availability of treatment and recovery services in facilities managed by the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services and considering ways to expand access to treatment.

Additional information on the state's efforts can be found on: <http://governor.maryland.gov/documents/OPCFactSheet.pdf>.



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Governor O'Malley to Facilitate Mid-Atlantic Regional Workgroup on Infrastructure Investment

June 27th, 2014

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley announced this week his intention to pursue the establishment of a new public-private regional infrastructure initiative called the Mid-Atlantic Infrastructure Exchange (MAX) to help address critical transportation needs in the National Capital Region and the Mid-Atlantic. The Governor committed to hosting regional meetings laying the groundwork for MAX and building on past collaborations with Mid-Atlantic neighbors. The initiative was created as a Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) Commitment to Action and was announced during the CGI America annual meeting in Denver, Colorado.



Governor O'Malley announces MAX with President Bill Clinton in Denver (Photo courtesy AP)

"We're not spending enough on infrastructure, especially since interest rates are lower than inflation, which means infrastructure projects are as close as you can get to a sure thing for a solid rate of return," said **President Clinton**. "By making it easier for infrastructure projects to access pension investments and private capital,

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the Mid-Atlantic Infrastructure Exchange is an innovative way to strengthen critical infrastructure in the region while getting people back to work.”

“In Maryland, we’re focused on doing what works: investing in education, innovation, and infrastructure,” **Gov. O’Malley said**. “We want to create this regional consortium to come up with innovative ways to make more infrastructure investments — this will put Marylanders to work, and it will make our region an even more attractive place for businesses to invest.”

“Investing in our infrastructure creates jobs, helps build sustainable communities, and spurs economic development,” said **Lt. Governor Brown**. “With our new public-private partnerships law, Maryland is poised to move forward on a number of critical infrastructure projects, such as the Purple Line that will connect Prince George’s and Montgomery Counties and help the National Capital Region grow. This regional consortium will help us pursue innovative strategies, share knowledge, and leverage resources so we can continue to invest in our communities.”

The commitment builds on existing efforts to create jobs by investing in [infrastructure](#), [education](#) and innovation. Just last year, [Governor O’Malley signed the Transportation Infrastructure Investment Act](#) into state law. The Act will provide an additional \$4.4 billion to support priority transportation efforts and will create or support an estimated 57,000 jobs. Since 2007, the O’Malley-Brown Administration has increased transportation investments by 75 percent, culminating in the largest 6-year transportation budget in Maryland history at \$15.65 billion. The State has also increased its funding for [wastewater infrastructure by 260 percent](#) since 2007 and created nearly 9,000 jobs.

In 2013, Lt. Governor Anthony Brown led the State’s successful effort to pass the Public-Private Partnerships Act. Today, Maryland is better positioned to showcase the innovative use of public-private partnerships nationally, and the Purple Line project is one of only a handful of projects in the nation that utilizes this dynamic investment method.

The announcement also furthers three of the O’Malley-Brown Administration’s [16 strategic goals](#): (1) to [double transit ridership by the end of 2020](#) to create a more sustainable future, (2) to [recover 100 percent of jobs lost during the recession by the end of 2014](#), and (3) to [reduce Maryland’s Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 25 percent by 2020](#). The State recovered 100 percent of the jobs it lost in the national recession — [one of only 17 states to reach that threshold](#) — and the O’Malley-Brown Administration continues to use fresh, innovative strategies to strengthen the State’s economy and expand more opportunity to more Marylanders.

The development of the MAX will leverage potential resources from a similar partnership called the West Coast Infrastructure Exchange (WCX) along with personnel from Building America’s Future Educational Fund. The governor committed to acting as a facilitator for the work group to assess the feasibility of implementing the concept in the Mid-Atlantic region. The work group will also examine ways to enhance current innovative project delivery efforts as well as infrastructure improvement best practices.

Mirroring the structure of the WCX, the MAX would act as a sustainable, non-governmental entity with the goal of providing technical expertise on project

developments not currently available in the Mid-Atlantic region. MAX would act as the central nervous system for infrastructure investment and innovation, connecting local governments and agencies with private investors, developers, workers and project sponsors to address critical gaps in regional infrastructure. The potential benefits include improved access to financial and institutional resources, deployment of public and private investment in regional infrastructure and promotion of job creation efforts in the near-term, and long-term economic competitiveness.



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Governor O'Malley Releases Statement on the Supreme Court's Harris v. Quinn Decision

June 30th, 2014

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley issued the following statement today in reaction to the Supreme Court of the United States' ruling in Harris v. Quinn:

"We are still reviewing the details of the decision, but we are disappointed with the outcome.

"Maryland has derived enormous benefit from our homecare system, which includes collective bargaining. Our system enables the State to accomplish important goals — like ensuring an adequate and well-trained homecare workforce — and exclusive representation and fair-share fees play an important role in a fair and effective collective bargaining system.

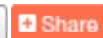
"As we continue reviewing the decision, we will consider what, if any, changes will be required for Maryland's system of collective bargaining. Our system has worked well for home health workers, patients, and taxpayers — so we will try to keep it as much intact as is possible."



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